

# **N O T I C E**

## **Active Real Estate Licensees And Approved Real Estate Schools**

The Washington Real Estate Commission has asked the Department of Licensing to remind licensees and approved schools that Washington Real Estate License law does require “clock hours of instruction” to satisfy pre-license, post license and continuing education requirements. This requirement applies to all courses regardless of whether offered via live presentation or distance education delivery method.

Recently, the Commission and department have become aware that some licensees and providers are interpreting the standard for satisfactory completion of courses as being “mastery-based” vs. “clock-hour based”. In fact, some real estate schools have been found to advertise courses as “mastery-based” and to state that courses may be successfully completed in less time than the clock hours awarded for the course. This advertising and information is incorrect and misleading for Washington applicants and licensees.

Courses are submitted to the department for approval. Applicants for course approval submit an outline of course presentation that includes an estimate of time to complete each learning unit. Clock hours are awarded based upon the applicant’s estimated times. Courses offered via live presentation are expected to last for the awarded number of clock-hours. Courses offered using a distance education delivery method require both the approved school and the student to certify in writing that the student has completed the course, and the required number of clock hours.

There are no mastery-based courses for real estate education approved in Washington State. Prior to enrolling in any course advertised as “mastery-based” or “not time sensitive”, licensees should consult with the school to determine how clock hours of instruction will be documented.

If you are aware of any school advertising mastery-based courses or you have been able to complete a course in significantly less time than the advertised number of clock hours, the department is interested in this information. No retroactive disciplinary action will be taken against students who have taken these courses, and subsequently report to the department as a result of this notice. You may call or use the [education complaint form](#) found on our internet site at <http://www.dol.wa.gov/realestate/refront.htm> under the real estate program.

If you have questions concerning this notice or can provide the department with requested information, you may contact Jerry McDonald, Assistant Administrator at (360) 664-6524, or Dolores Casitas, Professional Licensing Manager at (360) 664-6505.